

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for providing a channel information window overlaying
2 a broadcast video, the method comprising:
3 transmitting a bitmap for the channel information window from a server
4 system to a terminal;
5 receiving at the terminal a signal to activate the channel information
6 window; and
7 overlaying at the terminal the bitmap for the channel information window
8 over the broadcast video.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting the bitmap for the
2 channel information window is performed via an out-of-band channel.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting the bitmap for the
2 channel information window comprises:
3 encoding at the server system the bitmap for the channel information
4 window to generate an encoded bitmap;
5 transmitting the encoded bitmap to the terminal;
6 receiving at the terminal the encoded bitmap;
7 decoding at the terminal the encoded bitmap to regenerate the bitmap for
8 channel information window.

1 4. A method for navigating within a channel information window, the
2 method comprising:
3 selecting a mode for said navigation, where said mode restricts said
4 navigation to a predetermined subset of available channels.

1 5. A method for navigating between TV channels, the method
2 comprising:
3 providing a channel information window overlaying a broadcast video
4 display;
5 navigating among channels within the channel information window; and

6 changing the broadcast video display in synchronization with the
7 navigating among channels within the channel information window.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the channel information window is
2 provided by transmitting a bitmap for the channel information window from a server
3 system.

1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein changing the broadcast video
2 display is accomplished by changing which video packet stream is being decoded and
3 presented.

1 8. The method of claim 5, wherein navigating among channels occurs
2 using a special button on a remote control to loop through a series of channels.

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